



Docket No.: SON-2864  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Takeo EGUCHI et al

Art Unit: 2853

Application No.: 10/730,135

Examiner: N/A

Filed: December 9, 2003

Confirmation No. 3183

For: LIQUID DISCHARGE DEVICE AND LIQUID  
DISCHARGE METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

MS Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner the four (4) English-language documents cited on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. Copies are provided. This submission is timely in that it is made prior to a first Action on the merits of this application.

This will also certify that each item of information provided in this Information Disclosure Statement was noted in an action in a corresponding foreign application not more than three months ago. Specifically, these documents were cited in a European search report (ESR) dated March 11, 2004 in connection with the Applicant's corresponding EP application. A copy of the ESR and a copy of the Annex showing patent family members accompanies this submission.

It may be noted that the EP'704 publication and the EP'248 publications apparently correspond to the JP Application Nos. 2002-032861 and 2003-037343 mentioned at page 11 of this application as filed. Inquiry has been made as to whether the other two documents, i.e. 2002-036522 and 2002-0320862 at pages 6 and 11 are similarly arranged. At present, those documents have not been provided or cited.

Please take these documents into account in the initial examination of this application and make their consideration of record.

Dated: April 26, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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| Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO   |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                  |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/730,135       |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | December 9, 2003 |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Takeo Eguchi     |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2853             |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | N/A              |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | SON-2864         |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       | AA                       | 4,575,730                                | 3/11/86                        | Logan et al  |   |
|                       |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          |  |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | EP 1 354 704 A1   | 10/22/03                          | Sony Corporation                                   |   | X              |
|                          | BB                       | EP 1 369 248 A1   | 12/10/03                          | Sony Corporation                                   |   | X              |
|                          | BC                       | EP 1 201 435 A2   | 05/02/02                          | Eastman Kodak Company                              |   | X              |
|                          |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | CA                       | EPO Search Report 3/11/04   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|